

**In the Claims**

1-40 (Canceled)

41. (New) A method for inhibiting commands sent from a computer to a data storage device, the method comprising:

determining whether an Integrated Drive Electronics (IDE) command at a first bus coupled to the host computer is from a first set of IDE commands; and

if the IDE command at the first bus is from the first set of IDE commands, generating signals indicative of a command from a second set of IDE commands on a second bus coupled to the data storage device while an input/output write signal to the data storage device is deasserted;

wherein the command from the second set of IDE commands is different than the IDE command at the first bus.

42. (New) A method according to claim 41, further comprising if the IDE command at the first bus is not from the first set of IDE commands, generating signals indicative of the IDE command at the first bus on the second bus while the input/output write signal to the data storage device is deasserted.

43. (New) A method according to claim 42, wherein generating signals indicative of the IDE command at the first bus on the second bus comprises coupling at least a portion of the first bus to the second bus.

44. (New) A method according to claim 41, wherein generating signals indicative of the IDE command on the second bus comprises coupling an output of a command generator to the second bus.

45. (New) A method according to claim 41, wherein the first set of commands comprises only one command.

46. (New) A method according to claim 45, wherein the first set of commands comprises a write command.

47. (New) A method according to claim 41, wherein the first set of commands comprises a plurality of commands.

48. (New) A method according to claim 47, wherein the first set of commands comprises at least two of a write command, a media lock command, a media unlock command, a sleep command, a standby command, a download microcode command, and a packet command.

49. (New) A method according to claim 41, wherein each command from the second set of commands, when received by the data storage device, prompts the data storage device to generate an error message.

50. (New) A method according to claim 41, wherein the second set of commands comprises only one command.

51. (New) A method according to claim 50, wherein the second set of commands comprises the IDE 01h command.

52. (New) A method according to claim 41, wherein the second set of commands comprises a plurality of commands.

53. (New) A method according to claim 52, wherein the second set of commands comprises at least one reserved IDE command.

54. (New) A method for inhibiting commands sent to a data storage device, the method comprising:

determining whether an Integrated Drive Electronics (IDE) command sent to the data storage device is from a first set of IDE commands;

if the IDE command sent to the data storage device is from the first set of IDE commands, generating signals indicative of a command from a second set of IDE commands on a second bus coupled to the data storage device while an input/output write signal to the data storage device is deasserted, wherein the command from the second set of IDE commands is different than the IDE command sent to the data storage device; and

generating an error message using the data storage device upon the data storage device receiving the command from the second set of IDE commands.

55. (New) A method according to claim 54, further comprising:

generating an interrupt using the data storage device upon generating the error message; and

reading the error message from a register of the data storage device in response to the interrupt.

56. (New) A method according to claim 54, further comprising if the IDE command sent to the data storage device is not from the first set of IDE commands, generating signals indicative of the IDE command sent to the data storage device on the second bus while the input/output write signal to the data storage device is deasserted.

57. (New) A method according to claim 54, wherein determining whether the IDE command sent to the data storage device is from the first set of IDE commands comprises determining whether the IDE command at a first bus coupled to a host computer is from the first set of IDE commands.

58. (New) A method according to claim 54, wherein generating signals indicative of the IDE command sent to the data storage device on the second bus comprises coupling at least a portion of a first bus to the second bus.

59. (New) A method according to claim 54, wherein generating signals indicative of the IDE command on the second bus comprises coupling an output of a command generator to the second bus.

60. (New) An Integrated Drive Electronics (IDE) interface device, comprising:

an input to receive signals associated with IDE commands from a host computer;

an output to operatively couple with a data storage device; and

a control device, operatively coupled with the input and the output, the control device configured to determine whether an IDE command from the host computer is from a first set of IDE commands based on signals at the input;

wherein the control device is further configured to, if the IDE command from the host computer is from the first set of IDE commands, generate signals indicative of a command from a second set of IDE commands at the output while an input/output write signal to the data storage device is deasserted;

wherein the command from the second set of IDE commands is different than the IDE command from the host computer.

61. (New) An IDE interface device according to claim 60, wherein the control device is further configured to, if the IDE command from the host computer is not from the first set of IDE commands, generate signals indicative of the command from the host computer at the output while an input/output write signal to the data storage device is deasserted.

62. (New) An IDE interface device according to claim 60, wherein the output is to be coupled at least to a plurality of IDE data signals associated with the data storage device.

63. (New) An IDE interface device according to claim 60, wherein the plurality of IDE data signals comprises the lower eight IDE data signals associated with the data storage device.

64. (New) An IDE interface device according to claim 60, wherein at least a portion of the input comprises an input/output port.

65. (New) An IDE interface device according to claim 60, wherein the output comprises an input/output port.

66. (New) An IDE interface device according to claim 60, wherein the control device comprises:

a logic device operatively coupled to the input, the logic device configured to generate a control signal indicative of whether the IDE command from the host computer is from the first set of IDE commands based on signals at the input;

a data switch operatively coupled to the output and the control signal, the data switch configured to couple the signals indicative of the command from a second set of IDE commands to the output when the control signal indicates the IDE command from the host computer is from the first set of IDE commands.

67. (New) An IDE interface device according to claim 66, wherein the data switch is operatively coupled to a portion of the input, wherein the data switch is further configured to couple the portion of the input to the output when the control signal indicates the IDE command from the host computer is not from the first set of IDE commands.

68. (New) An IDE interface device according to claim 67, wherein the portion of the input comprises the lower eight IDE data signals associated with the host computer.

69. (New) An IDE interface device according to claim 66, wherein the logic device comprises programmable array logic.

70. (New) an IDE interface device according to claim 66, wherein the data switch is a bi-directional switch.